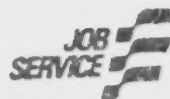




LOUISIANA



LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

SEPTEMBER 1984

RELEASE DATE:
OCTOBER 25, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1984				REVISED AUGUST 1984				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1983			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,953.5	1,797.9	155.6	9.4	1,969.8	1,784.5	185.3	9.4	1,931.8	1,717.4	214.4	11.1
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	79.9	72.5	7.4	9.3	79.8	72.3	7.5	9.4	78.9	70.8	8.1	10.2
Baton Rouge 2/	253.0	232.0	21.0	8.3	251.3	230.1	21.2	8.4	242.7	220.3	22.4	9.3
Lafayette 3/	98.2	92.3	5.9	6.0	97.9	92.1	5.8	5.9	95.4	87.3	8.1	8.5
Lake Charles 4/	75.1	65.0	10.1	13.5	75.5	65.4	10.1	13.4	79.2	67.6	11.6	14.6
Monroe 5/	59.8	54.3	5.5	9.1	60.7	55.1	5.6	9.2	59.5	53.2	6.3	10.6
New Orleans 6/	562.6	493.4	69.2	9.1	545.3	496.9	48.4	8.9	528.3	475.5	52.8	10.0
Shreveport 7/	174.3	161.4	12.9	7.4	172.3	159.5	12.8	7.4	173.5	155.5	18.0	10.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,582,100 for September, an increase of 10,400 from August's level and 12,400 above the comparable period a year ago. Seasonal employment increases in public and private schools were the central force in the upturn of total nonagricultural employment for September. Louisiana's manufacturing industries showed lower employment as the result of a downturn in the nondurable goods segment.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing increased by 100 workers from August's level to 84,400 for September. Decreased production of millwork, plywood and structural members was instrumental in the decrease of lumber and wood products employment. Higher employment in the fabricated structural metal products industry contributed to the increase in fabricated metal products payrolls. More business for firms manufacturing construction and related machinery was primarily responsible for the higher employment in the machinery, except electrical, industry. Increased production in establishments manufacturing electrical industrial apparatus, electric lighting and wiring equipment and certain miscellaneous electrical equipment and supplies resulted in a higher employment level in the electric and electronic equipment industry. Payrolls in the state's transportation equipment industry dropped due to a decline in activity at the state's shipyard.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for September was 98,600, a decrease of 400 workers from last month. Food and kindred products employment was up due in large part to a seasonal increase in vegetable canning. A decline in the manufacturing of men's and boy's furnishings was among the factors resulting in a drop in the apparel and other textile products industry. Additions to paper mill payrolls and increased production of certain miscellaneous converted paper products were largely responsible for the upturn in paper and allied products employment. The chemicals and allied products industry experienced lower payrolls this month largely as a result of low demand for industrial organic chemicals. Decreased production of refined petroleum resulted in a lower employment level for the petroleum and coal products industry.

Nonmanufacturing employment for September, at 1,399,100, was up by 10,700 above August's level and 9,700 higher than September a year ago. Increased activity in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas was responsible for the higher employment level in mining this month. An upturn in heavy construction and in general building construction largely accounted for the increase in construction payrolls. The lower level of employment in transportation and public utilities was due in large part to less activity at the state's ports and to payroll cutbacks in the gas production and distribution industry. Trade payrolls in September were down largely as a result of decreased business for Louisiana's eating and drinking establishments. Employment drops at banks were significant in the downturn of finance, insurance and real estate employment. Seasonal employee additions in educational services primarily accounted for the increase in services employment for September. The opening of state and local schools was responsible for the large gain in government employment this month.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 128,200 production workers in manufacturing increased from \$415.52 in August to \$418.32 in September, an increase of \$2.80 and an increase of \$19.35 above September of last year. Average hourly earnings were three cents lower than last month but \$0.18 more than September of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.5 for the current month, an increase of 0.4 hours from last month's average of 41.1 hours.

Estimated total unemployment in Louisiana, at 185,600 for September, was up by 300 from August's level of 185,300. The state's unemployment rate for September was 9.4 percent, no change from August's rate of 9.4 percent. The comparable national unemployment rate for September was 7.1 percent compared to 7.3 percent in August and 8.8 percent in September a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,969,800 in August to 1,983,500 in September, an increase of 13,700. Total employment for Louisiana went from 1,784,500 in August to 1,797,900 in September, an increase of 13,400 above last month and an increase of 80,500 above September of last year.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to go down during the two to three months as the usual fall seasonal upturn begins. Trade employment will probably increase as new hires are made in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. School employment will likely increase some more as a result of the new school term.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	September 1983**	Net Change from	
				August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,582.1	1,571.7	1,569.7	+ 10.4	+ 12.4
MINING AND QUARRYING	78.5	77.9	78.2	+ 0.6	+ 0.3
Oil and Gas Extraction	75.4	74.8	75.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	114.3	113.3	116.3	+ 0.1	- 2.0
MANUFACTURING	183.0	183.3	180.3	- 0.3	+ 2.7
Durable Goods	84.4	84.3	79.3	+ 0.1	+ 5.1
Lumber and Wood Products	13.5	13.6	13.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.8	7.8	7.6	0	+ 0.2
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	13.7	13.6	13.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Machinery, Except Electrical	10.2	10.1	9.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Electric & Electronic Equipment	11.0	10.9	8.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.8
Transportation Equipment	21.3	21.4	21.0	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.6	2.6	2.0	0	+ 0.6
Nondurable Goods	98.6	99.0	101.0	- 0.4	- 2.4
Food & Kindred Products	23.2	23.1	24.5	+ 0.1	- 1.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.1	9.3	8.6	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Paper & Allied Products	12.0	11.8	11.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.8	0	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	28.6	29.0	29.9	- 0.4	- 1.3
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.9	12.0	12.9	- 0.1	- 1.0
Petroleum Refining	11.2	11.3	12.2	- 0.1	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	4.0	3.8	0	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	116.5	117.2	117.6	- 0.7	- 1.1
Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.5	7.1	0	+ 0.4
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.9	68.3	68.5	- 0.4	- 0.6
Communications & Public Utilities	41.1	41.4	42.0	- 0.3	- 0.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	374.4	375.2	373.0	- 0.8	+ 1.4
Wholesale Trade	95.1	94.9	94.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	279.3	280.3	278.1	- 1.0	+ 1.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	56.8	57.1	58.9	- 0.3	- 2.1
Food Stores	52.7	52.5	51.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.4
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.8	30.9	30.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	86.9	87.6	85.2	- 0.7	+ 1.7
Other Retail Trade	52.1	52.2	52.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.4	83.8	83.4	- 0.4	0
Banking	27.9	28.1	27.8	- 0.2	+ 0.1
SERVICES	312.8	309.1	305.9	+ 3.7	+ 6.9
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.8	22.6	21.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.5
Other Services	290.0	286.5	284.6	+ 3.5	+ 5.4
GOVERNMENT	319.2	311.9	315.0	+ 7.3	+ 4.2
Federal	34.2	34.7	34.1	- 0.5	+ 0.1
State and Local	285.0	277.2	280.9	+ 7.8	+ 4.1
State	97.9	95.1	100.9	+ 2.8	- 3.0
Local	187.1	182.1	180.0	+ 5.0	+ 7.1

* Preliminary

**Revised

- (1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Sept. '84*	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	Sept. '83**
ALL MANUFACTURING (1)						
Durable Goods	\$418.32	\$398.97	41.5	40.3	\$10.08	\$9.90
Lumber & Wood Products	393.76	358.02	41.8	39.3	9.42	9.11
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	349.35	275.93	41.1	38.7	8.50	7.13
Fabricated Metal Products	391.60	378.68	44.5	42.5	8.80	8.91
Machinery, ex. Electrical	380.10	376.67	42.0	40.2	9.05	9.37
Electric & Electronic Equip.	404.28	342.43	42.2	37.1	9.58	9.23
Transportation Equipment	436.38	393.90	42.0	39.0	10.39	10.10
	431.07	393.22	40.4	39.8	10.67	9.88
Nondurable Goods						
Food & Kindred Products	442.74	441.32	41.3	41.4	10.72	10.66
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	273.91	249.66	40.7	36.5	6.73	6.84
Paper & Allied Products	184.04	177.65	36.3	41.8	5.07	4.25
Printing & Publishing	542.66	567.71	44.7	45.2	12.14	12.56
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	335.01	353.51	37.1	39.9	9.03	8.86
Petroleum & Coal Products	642.38	618.62	43.2	43.2	14.87	14.32
Petroleum Refining	610.06	672.56	41.9	49.2	14.56	13.67
	619.66	689.21	41.7	49.3	14.86	13.98
MINING						
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	542.06	525.51	47.3	46.3	11.46	11.35
BANKING	471.11	450.07	40.3	39.9	11.69	11.28
	246.25	218.46	39.4	37.6	6.25	5.81

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 128,200 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 103,300 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1984

REVISED AUGUST 1984

	<u>Labor Force</u>	<u>Empl.</u>	<u>Unemp.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Labor Force</u>	<u>Empl.</u>	<u>Unemp.</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Crowley (Acadia)	25,350	22,500	2,850	11.2	24,875	22,125	2,750	11.1
Oakdale (Allen)	6,750	5,575	1,175	17.4	6,525	5,400	1,125	17.3
Napoleonville (Assumption)	11,425	10,025	1,400	12.2	10,975	9,650	1,325	12.0
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,700	11,300	1,400	11.1	12,625	11,225	1,400	11.2
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,600	6,925	675	8.8	7,500	6,850	650	8.7
Columbia (Caldwell)	5,200	4,775	425	8.4	5,025	4,575	450	8.9
Cameron (Cameron)	5,125	4,800	325	6.4	5,050	4,725	325	6.5
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,725	6,125	600	9.1	6,625	6,000	625	9.6
Homer (Claiborne)	7,825	7,225	600	7.5	7,725	7,125	600	7.7
Ferriday (Concordia)	10,175	9,075	1,100	10.7	9,950	8,850	1,100	11.0
Mansfield (DeSoto)	12,300	11,125	1,175	9.5	12,075	10,900	1,175	9.7
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,750	5,050	700	12.1	5,525	4,775	750	13.7
Clinton (East Feliciana)	8,575	7,800	775	9.0	8,450	7,700	750	8.9
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	15,525	13,550	1,975	12.7	14,825	12,975	1,850	12.5
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,450	8,275	1,175	12.5	9,050	7,875	1,175	13.1
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,575	32,675	3,900	10.6	36,700	32,700	4,000	10.9
Plaquemine (Iberville)	16,275	14,450	1,825	11.3	15,925	14,125	1,800	11.3
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,600	6,125	475	7.2	6,525	6,025	500	7.5
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	14,025	12,175	1,850	13.1	13,600	11,850	1,750	12.9
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	40,200	36,600	3,600	9.0	39,500	35,875	3,625	9.2
Jena (LaSalle)	6,500	6,000	500	7.8	6,400	5,875	525	8.4
Ruston (Lincoln)	22,750	21,825	925	4.0	21,600	20,675	925	4.3
Tallulah (Madison)	5,950	5,325	625	10.4	5,750	5,075	675	11.6
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,600	12,200	1,400	10.3	13,275	11,850	1,425	10.8
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	18,300	16,925	1,375	7.5	17,825	16,450	1,375	7.8
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaquem.)	14,950	13,975	975	6.6	14,800	13,800	1,000	6.7
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	14,350	13,000	1,350	9.5	13,975	12,575	1,400	10.0
Coushatta (Red River)	4,575	4,225	350	7.5	4,450	4,100	350	7.6
Rayville (Richland)	9,125	8,125	1,000	10.9	8,650	7,650	1,000	11.5
Many (Sabine)	8,550	7,850	700	8.2	8,375	7,700	675	8.1
Norco (St. Charles)	22,975	20,625	2,350	10.2	22,950	20,575	2,375	10.3
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,900	4,500	400	8.1	4,700	4,275	425	9.1
Lutcher (St. James)	12,625	11,075	1,550	12.2	12,300	10,750	1,550	12.7
Reserve (St. John)	19,375	17,050	2,325	11.9	19,000	16,650	2,350	12.3
Opelousas (St. Landry)	36,800	31,300	5,500	15.0	36,150	30,550	5,600	15.5
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,625	18,100	2,525	12.2	20,325	17,675	2,650	13.0
Morgan City (St. Mary)	33,875	30,025	3,850	11.4	33,650	29,800	3,850	11.4
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	37,350	32,225	5,125	13.7	36,400	31,225	5,175	14.2
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,575	3,275	300	8.1	3,275	2,975	300	9.2
Houma (Terrebonne)	47,525	43,275	4,250	8.9	47,325	43,025	4,300	9.1
Farmerville (Union)	8,250	7,475	775	9.3	8,075	7,350	725	9.1
Abbeville (Vermilion)	26,450	23,950	2,500	9.4	25,950	23,400	2,550	9.9
Leesville (Vernon)	13,125	11,700	1,425	10.8	12,975	11,650	1,325	10.2
Bogalusa (Washington)	15,550	13,500	2,050	13.2	15,350	13,200	2,150	14.0
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,775	4,050	725	15.0	4,575	3,825	750	16.3
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	4,000	3,775	225	5.6	3,975	3,750	225	5.8
Winnfield (Winn)	6,025	5,500	525	8.6	5,875	5,350	525	8.8

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	September 1983**	Net Change From	
				August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE					
AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.9	54.6	54.9	+ 0.3	0
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.6	5.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.9	2.8	2.9	+ 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.6	1.7	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	2.9	2.8	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	0.9	1.0	+ 0.1	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.1	49.0	49.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	3.4	3.6	3.7	- 0.2	- 0.3
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.6	2.6	2.5	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.5	12.7	12.5	- 0.2	0
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Retail Trade	9.8	10.0	9.8	- 0.2	0
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	2.0	2.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Auto Dtrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.2	4.3	4.2	- 0.1	0
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Services & Mining	11.9	11.8	11.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.2	0	0
Other Services & Mining	6.7	6.6	6.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	15.8	15.4	15.8	+ 0.4	0
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.7	5.7	5.8	0	- 0.1
Local	7.3	6.9	7.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.1

- (1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Alexandria area had an estimated nonagricultural employment of 54,900 during September. This employment estimate is 300 more than last month and the same as it was in September of last year.

Total employment in the manufacturing industries increased 200 since the previous month and by 100 since this month last year. The increase was in both durable and nondurable goods.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing increased by 100 since August and decreased by 100 since September of last year. Changes since last month shows losses in construction and retail trade and gains in services and local government. Since this month last year, we had an increase in employment in services, and transportation, communication and utilities, and a loss in the construction industry.

Total employment should remain fairly constant during the next thirty days with a slight decline in the unemployment rate.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	September 1983**	Net Change From August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	213.3	210.1	208.0	+ 3.2	+ 5.3
MANUFACTURING	22.0	22.1	22.5	- 0.1	- 0.5
Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	3.9	0	+ 0.5
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.6	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	17.6	17.7	18.6	- 0.1	- 1.0
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	12.8	13.0	13.8	- 0.2	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.1	1.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	191.3	188.0	185.5	+ 3.3	+ 5.8
Mining	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Construction	20.8	20.8	20.6	0	+ 0.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.6	9.5	10.2	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	51.9	51.4	49.0	+ 0.5	+ 2.9
Wholesale Trade	11.1	11.2	11.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	40.8	40.2	37.8	+ 0.6	+ 3.0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.7	12.7	12.2	0	+ 0.5
Services	40.6	40.2	38.2	+ 0.4	+ 2.4
Government	54.8	52.5	54.4	+ 2.3	+ 0.4

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	\$492.63	\$490.56	\$483.31	42.8	42.0	42.1	\$11.51	\$11.68	\$11.48
Petro-Chemicals	652.85	661.95	634.92	44.9	45.0	44.0	14.54	14.71	14.43

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 213,300 during September was up 3,200 over the revised August total and up 5,500 over the total for last September. Manufacturing was down while nonmanufacturing had an increase.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,000 in September was down 100 from the revised August total. Durable goods were unchanged and nondurable goods dropped due to less business in industrial organic chemicals and a small increase in men's youth's, and boy's furnishings, work clothing, and allied garments due to seasonal increases and more business in miscellaneous plastic products.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 191,300 during September was up from the revised August total due to more business in telephone communication (wire or radio) and seasonal increases in department stores, eating and drinking places and miscellaneous shopping goods stores. Services increased due to seasonal increases in photographic studios, portrait, and in job training and vocational rehabilitation services while more business accounted for increases in personnel supply services. Government employment was up due to seasonal increases in state education institutions.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 12,700 production workers in all manufacturing industries was \$492.63 in September, up \$2.07 from the August revised average. Average weekly hours were up 0.8 hours and average hourly earnings were down \$0.17. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 232,000 during September, up 1,900 over the August revised estimate. Unemployment was down 200. The current unemployment rate at 8.3 percent is down from the August revised rate of 8.4 percent. The statewide unemployment rate was 9.4 percent during September. The local civilian labor force increased by 1,700 during the current period.

With the holiday season approaching, employment should continue to increase and the unemployment rate should continue downward.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,866 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 1,866 applicants in jobs during September.

The consumer price index for August, 1984 for all urban consumers was 313.0 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 310.3 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	September 1983**	Net Change From August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	89.2	88.4	86.6	+ 0.8	+ 2.6
MANUFACTURING	3.9	3.9	3.6	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	1.9	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	85.3	84.5	83.0	+ 0.8	+ 2.3
Mining	17.0	16.4	15.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.7
Construction	5.0	5.1	5.2	- 0.1	- 0.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.7	6.8	6.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.5	24.3	23.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Wholesale Trade	6.6	6.7	6.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	17.9	17.6	16.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.8	2.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Food Stores	2.8	2.7	2.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Auto. Dtrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.6	1.5	1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.8	10.6	9.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Services	18.8	18.6	18.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Government	9.5	9.5	10.4	0	- 0.9

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during September stood at 89,200, an increase of 800 from the previous month and 2,600 more than the same period of time a year ago.

Manufacturing remained the same from the previous month but increased 300 from September of last year.

Nonmanufacturing rose 800 from August of 1984 and 2,300 from the level of a year ago.

Wholesale and Retail trade showed a small increase of 200 from the previous month and 200 from September of 1983.

Lafayette unemployment rate should decrease somewhat over the next few months because of seasonal hiring for the upcoming holiday season. Construction should continue to slide as winter weather approaches.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	September 1983**	Net Change From	
				August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	57.7	58.4	61.8	- 0.7	- 4.1
MANUFACTURING	9.0	9.2	9.7	- 0.2	- 0.7
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.2	8.4	8.8	- 0.2	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet Products	7.4	7.5	7.9	- 0.1	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.5	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.7	49.2	52.1	- 0.5	- 3.4
Mining	2.1	2.3	2.4	- 0.2	- 0.3
Construction	4.5	4.3	6.3	+ 0.2	- 1.8
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.7	4.7	4.5	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.4	13.8	14.7	- 0.4	- 1.3
Wholesale Trade	3.1	3.3	3.4	- 0.2	- 0.3
Retail Trade	10.3	10.5	11.3	- 0.2	- 1.0
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	2.0	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
Auto Dirs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.5	10.5	11.0	0	- 0.5
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.9	0.8	- 0.1	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.6	10.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lake Charles during September stood at 57,700, a decline of 700 from last month's figure and 4,100 fewer than September of last year.

Nonmanufacturing declined 500 from the previous month. The decrease of 3,400 from September, of last year was more noticeable.

Manufacturing decreased 200 from August and 1,800 from the same period of time a year ago.

The largest decrease in nonmanufacturing was in the trades. suffered a decrease of 400 from the previous month and 1,300 fewer than September of 1983.

The other segments remained relatively stable.

Employment is expected to increase somewhat in the next 30 days and unemployment may decrease slightly.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	September 1983**	Net Change From	
				August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.9	51.3	50.8	- 0.4	+ 0.1
MANUFACTURING	7.1	7.0	7.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.2	2.1	2.2	+ 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	1.9	2.0	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.9	4.8	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.1	3.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	43.8	44.3	43.8	- 0.5	0
Mining	0.4	0.5	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	2.3	2.3	3.1	0	- 0.8
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.7	2.8	2.7	- 0.1	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.1	14.3	14.4	- 0.2	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	4.0	4.1	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.1	10.2	10.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.9	2.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.8	2.9	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.4	10.3	10.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Government	9.8	10.0	8.9	- 0.2	+ 0.9

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Monroe area was estimated at 50,900 during mid-September. This was 400 below the August estimate of 51,300 and 100 above the estimate for September 1983.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,100 was 100 above the August estimate. The increase was in Durable Goods.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 43,800 was 500 below the August estimate. Services, estimated at 10,400, was 100 above the August estimate. Mining was 100 below last months estimate. Transportation and Public Utilities was down 100. Wholesale and Retail Trade was down by 200. The 200 decline in Government reflects the end of summer youth programs.

Over the next 30 days employment is expected to rise slightly. Over the same period unemployment is expected to remain above normal.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(in Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	Net Change From		
			September 1983**	August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	506.9	506.8	501.9	+ 0.1	+ 5.0
MANUFACTURING	39.8	39.7	40.4	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Durable Goods	23.6	23.7	23.6	- 0.1	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.6	2.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	3.5	3.3	3.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	3.0	2.9	2.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.0	13.3	13.0	- 0.3	0
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.9	8.2	8.3	- 0.3	- 0.4
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.3	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	16.2	16.0	1.8	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	6.7	6.5	7.2	+ 0.2	- 0.5
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	467.1	467.1	461.5	0	+ 5.6
Mining	18.5	18.5	18.2	0	+ 0.3
Construction	28.0	28.3	31.2	- 0.3	- 3.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.1	46.3	47.0	- 0.2	- 0.9
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Water Transportation	15.9	15.9	15.8	0	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132.6	132.0	129.7	+ 0.6	+ 2.9
Wholesale Trade	34.9	34.8	34.9	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	97.7	97.2	94.8	+ 0.5	+ 2.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	30.8	31.4	2.8	- 0.6	- 1.0
Services	125.6	124.9	2.2	+ 0.7	+ 3.4
Government	85.5	85.7	1.4	- 0.2	+ 4.1
Federal	14.8	14.9	0	- 0.1	- 0.2
State	20.1	19.8	3	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Local	50.6	51.0	1.1	- 0.4	+ 4.5

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	\$374.95	\$381.48	\$359.99	40.8	40.8	39.3	\$9.19	\$9.35	\$9.16
Durable Goods	377.70	395.73	376.26	40.7	41.7	39.9	9.28	9.49	9.43
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pds.	313.88	365.20	380.89	38.0	41.5	42.5	8.26	8.80	8.96
Fabricated Metal Products	449.18	439.78	465.09	50.3	51.8	41.9	8.93	8.49	11.10
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	382.53	385.77	353.96	38.6	38.5	38.6	9.91	10.02	9.17
Nondurable Goods	369.65	360.64	336.88	40.8	39.5	38.5	9.06	9.13	8.75
Food & Kindred Products	316.42	286.08	272.22	41.2	38.4	37.6	7.68	7.45	7.24
Apparel & Other Textile Pds.	140.60	147.48	131.42	32.1	32.7	29.6	4.38	4.51	4.44
Paper & Allied Products	379.30	391.72	368.01	43.2	44.8	43.5	8.78	8.37	8.46
Printing & Publishing	390.72	353.83	341.36	44.4	41.0	42.3	8.80	8.63	8.07
Chemicals & Allied Pds.	585.33	662.91	572.80	39.9	41.2	40.0	14.67	16.09	14.32

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 27,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in September edged up to 506,900, a minor gain of 100 since August. Sizable increases in several industries barely offset large decreases in others.

Manufacturing employment totaled 39,800 in September, 100 more than last month. Several area shipyards reported layoffs and scattered decreases were found in stone, clay and glass products. More favorable were increases in fabricated metal products and machinery. The only change in the nondurable goods sector was seasonal increases in food and kindred products. Manufacturing employment is down 600 compared to one year ago.

Nonmanufacturing remained at the same total employment level, despite considerable change in many industries. Services pushed up strongly, with an autumn upturn in private educational services offsetting decreases in amusement services and the hotel - motel industry. Retail trade gained, largely in employment by food stores and eating and drinking places. Wholesale trade showed a small gain. Less favorably, finance and insurance moved down, partly reflecting layoffs of summer workers. In local government, the beginning of the fall term in the public schools only partly offset layoffs of summer workers by city and parish administration services. State government was boosted by seasonal gains in state institutions of higher learning. Construction decreased, largely in heavy construction. Transportation and public utilities displayed scattered small downturns. Mining held steady.

Production workers earned an average \$374.95 in September, \$6.53 less than last month. The decrease was due to the drop in average hourly earnings as average weekly hours held steady over the month. Compared to one year ago, average weekly earnings are up \$14.96.

Estimated unemployment in September increased to 49,200, a level 800 above August. Decreases in many segments of employment were mostly responsible. Current joblessness accounts for 9.1 percent of the labor force compared to 8.9 percent in August and 10.0 percent in September of last year. The unemployment rate of 9.1 percent in September was lower than the state rate of 9.4 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.1 percent. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totaled 12,407. About 45.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; approximately 31.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months will probably show an overall increase. Public and private educational services will add more workers as the autumn school term moves further along. Retail trade will begin to benefit from shopping for the holiday season. Less favorably, preparations will be made for the closing of the World's Fair. Unemployment is predicted to remain near the current level.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1984*	August 1984**	September 1983**	Net Change From August 1984	September 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	152.2	149.7	150.3	+ 2.5	+ 1.9
MANUFACTURING	26.2	26.3	24.0	- 0.1	+ 2.2
Durable Goods	20.5	20.6	18.1	- 0.1	+ 2.4
Lumber and Wood Products	1.4	1.5	1.6	- 0.1	- 0.2
Metals and Machinery	13.0	13.1	10.9	- 0.1	+ 2.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	4.0	3.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	9.1	9.1	7.2	0	+ 1.9
Other Durable Goods	6.1	6.0	5.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Nondurable Good	5.7	5.7	5.9	0	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.3	1.4	1.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.5	1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	126.0	123.4	126.3	+ 2.6	- 0.3
Mining	6.4	6.6	6.0	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Construction	9.5	9.8	10.2	- 0.3	- 0.7
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.3	9.3	9.5	0	- 0.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	33.9	34.0	34.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.2	8.8	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	24.8	24.8	25.6	0	- 0.8
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.0	8.1	8.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Services	33.0	32.9	32.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Government	25.9	22.7	25.5	+ 3.2	+ 0.4

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**	Sept. '84*	August '84**	Sept. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	\$388.40	\$402.11	\$383.38	40.0	41.2	39.2	\$9.71	\$9.76	\$9.78
Lumber and Wood Products	233.28	231.95	239.98	40.5	40.2	40.4	5.76	5.77	5.94
Metals and Machinery	392.29	408.79	378.50	41.6	42.1	39.8	9.43	9.71	9.51
Food and Kindred Products	232.17	265.50	199.76	35.5	43.1	33.8	6.54	6.16	5.91
Printing and Publishing	239.67	315.20	210.82	30.3	39.4	29.2	7.91	8.00	7.22
Petroleum and Coal Products	562.59	559.02	523.27	47.0	46.2	45.7	11.97	12.10	11.45

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 20,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport area increased to an estimated 152,200, up from the revised August figure of 149,700 and the year ago estimate of 150,300. During the past month manufacturing employment dropped slightly and nonmanufacturing employment showed a seasonal gain.

The employment total in manufacturing moved down to 26,200. This estimate is 100 less than the revised August total, but 2,200 more than September, 1983. The employment gain of 100 in other durable goods was not enough to cover employment losses in lumber and wood products and metals and machinery during the past month.

Total nonmanufacturing employment increased from 123,400 last month to 126,000 for September. Employment reductions in mining, construction, trade and finance, insurance and real estate were more than offset by employment increases in government and services. The impact of the new school year on government employment is reflected in the September estimate of 25,900, up from 22,700 in August.

The average weekly earnings of 20,500 production workers in the Shreveport area dropped from \$402.11 in August to \$388.40 in September. Average weekly hours declined during the past month from 41.2 to 40.0. Average hourly earnings also dropped slightly from \$9.76 last month to \$9.71 for the current month.

The total civilian labor force for this area is 174,300, with 161,400 employed and 12,900 unemployed. The unemployment rate for September is 7.4 percent and the revised rate for last month is also 7.4 percent and 10.4 percent one year ago.

In this labor area total employment and unemployment should remain rather stable during the next two months. The unemployment rate should hold near the present level.